

Discipleship University Bible Reading Guide

Hebrew Prophets I: 2 Kings 15:1-27, 2 Chron. 26, Amos, Jonah, Hosea 1-4

(For class to be held on Feb. 18, 2017)

Reread 2 Kings 14:23-29, Read 2 Kings 15:1-7 and 2 Chronicles 26 – Uzziah (Azariah), King of Judah

1. What areas north of Israel did Jeroboam II conquer to expand his kingdom? _____
2. How old was Azariah (Uzziah in 2 Chronicles) when he became king of Judah? _____. How many years had Jeroboam been king of Israel when Azariah first became king of Judah? _____. How long was Azariah's reign? _____. What caused Azariah's death? _____
3. For most of his reign, was Uzziah a good or bad king? _____. What two nations or peoples did Uzziah defeat? _____. What nation is mentioned for paying him tribute? _____
4. What act of presumption resulted in Uzziah being smitten with leprosy? _____

Read Amos 1-2 – Oracles against Eight Nations

1. What nation was to be punished for threshing Gilead with instruments of iron? _____. What does that mean? _____. What was to happen to the houses and palaces of Hazael and Ben-hadad? _____
2. In what nation to be punished were the cities of Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon and Ekron located? _____
3. Which nation would receive punishment for ripping up women with child from Gilead? _____
4. Which nation is specifically mentioned for despising the law of the LORD and not keeping God's commandments? _____. Why was this nation the only one condemned for breaking God's law when it was obvious none of the other nations kept it either? _____
5. Which nation was condemned for oppressing the poor and extreme sexual promiscuity? _____
6. What is the point of Amos 2:14-15? _____

Read Amos 3-6 – The Case against Israel, God's chosen People

1. What is the answer to all of the questions from Amos 3:3-6? _____. What is the point of verses 7-8? _____
_____. What is the interpretation of the metaphor in verse 12? _____
_____. Who is to be punished in Amos 3? _____
2. Who are the cows of Bashan in Samaria who oppress the poor and ask their masters for wine? _____
_____. How could a people be taken away with hooks? _____
3. What curses of Deut. 28 can you see in Amos 4:6-10? _____
4. What city of Israel is singled out in each chapter 3-5? _____. Why? _____
5. For what sins does Amos hit Israel hard in Amos 5:11-12? _____
6. Read verses 21-24 carefully. Why does God despise their feast days, offerings, and songs? _____
_____. Where are they prophesied to "go into captivity"? _____
7. What is the picture of the people in Amos 6:1-6? What is the problem? _____

Read Amos 7-9 – Five Visions of Coming Judgment and Five Promises of Restoration

1. What judgment could come from God in Amos 7:1-3? _____. In Amos 7:4-6? _____. In Amos 7:7-9? _____. For what is the plumbline a metaphor? _____
2. Who opposed Amos by trying to stir up King Jeroboam II against him? _____. Where did this priest work? _____. How did Amos respond to Amaziah's threats? _____

3. What two great neglects were caused by the covetousness of the people as shown in Amos 8:4-6? _____. In verses 9-12, what is the cause of their mourning? (Go back to vs. 2 also) _____.
4. Given that Amos is speaking to Israel and not Judah, upon what altar does he see the LORD standing in Amos 9:1? _____. What is the point of verses 1-3? _____.
5. What hope is found in verses 9-10? _____.
6. What is the most amazing thing about the prophesied day of restoration in verses 11-12? _____.

Read Jonah 1 – God’s Missionary Rejects the Call

1. Why didn’t Jonah want to go to Nineveh? _____. What evidence is there that the sailors already knew about the true Creator God of Israel? _____.

Read Jonah 2-3 – God Intervenes and Jonah Accepts the Second Call with Great Success

1. Why does Jonah say he was captive forever when it was really only three days and nights? _____.
2. What is the evidence in Jonah’s prayer that he believes God hears him and will deliver him from the belly of the big fish? _____.
3. How many days did Jonah say until Nineveh was to be destroyed? _____. How did the people of Nineveh respond? _____. What does this story reveal about how God feels toward the wicked heathen? _____.

Read Jonah 4 – God Teaches Jonah about Mission

1. Why was Jonah angry that God is merciful? _____. Why did Jonah sit where he could watch the city? _____. Why did God rebuke Jonah? _____.

***Suggested Reading, *Prophets and Kings*, Chapter 22 (only pages 265-278)

Read Hosea 1-3 – The adulterous Wife and Faithful Husband

1. What kind of woman did God tell Hosea to marry? _____. What does vs. 2 give as a reason for such instruction? _____.
2. What was the way God’s messages are given to the people in Hosea 1? _____.
3. What does Gomer represent in Hosea 1-3? _____. What future is pictured in Hosea 3? _____.

Read 2 Kings 15:8-27 – Five Weak Kings of Israel Who Followed Jeroboam II

1. Who fulfilled the prophecy of ending the rule of the house of Jehu after 4 generations? _____.
2. What assassin ruled Israel for 10 years and paid heavy tribute to Pul, the king of Assyria? _____.
3. What assassin killed King Pekahiah and ruled Israel for 20 years? _____. Who was the King of Judah from the time of Jeroboam and most of those weak kings who followed him? _____.

Read Hosea 4 – The LORD’s Controversy with His People

1. How can you sum up the wickedness going on in Israel as given in Hosea 4? _____.
2. What did God say was destroying His people? _____.
3. According to vs. 4, from whom does Israel seek counsel? _____.
4. Why is the tribe of Ephraim singled out toward the end of the chapter? _____.